



DIAMOND HEAD/KAPAHULU/ST. LOUIS HEIGHTS NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 5

c/o NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION • 530 SOUTH KING STREET ROOM 400 • HONOLULU, HAWAII, 96813
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MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING JUNE 8, 2006 ALA WAI GOLF COURSE CLUBHOUSE

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Chair Ah Mai at 7:05 p.m. A quorum was present.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Karen Ah Mai, Bert Narita, Wayne Gau, Sharon Dumas, Barbara Miller, Kenneth Chang, Rick Egged, George Waialeale, Bertha Nahoopii, Joe Otto, Linda Wong, Michelle Matson, Roxie Berlin, Don Persons.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jay Harden.

GUESTS: Honolulu Police Department, District 7 – East Honolulu: Sgt. G. Maekawa, Officer C. Hytry, Lt. A. DeLima, Capt. R. Green; Honolulu Police Department, District 6 – Waikiki: Lt. D. Chun, Capt. A. Arita, Officer C. Chun, Detective D. Chong; Capt. Keith Nakanelua (HFD), Daisy Murai, Maureen Dunn, Eric La'a (Representative Scott Nishimoto's Office), Senator Les Ihara, Representative Calvin Say, Lori Wingard (Councilmember Charles Djou's Office), Chester Koga and Walter Chong (R.M. Towill), Jan Bappe, Walea Constantinau (Mayor's Office), University of Hawaii – Jan Yakota, Jim Manke, Glen Miura, Wayne Iwaoka, Kaponu Dowson Ryan (Chaminade University), Joel Hatch (Diamond Head Gardens), Dean Chu (Neighborhood Commission Office staff).

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS:

HONOLULU FIRE DEPARTMENT – Capt. Nakanelua reported the following:

1. Statistics for last month included: 5 structure, 5 rubbish and 5 false fire alarm responses, 100 medical emergency and 12 miscellaneous calls.
2. Brush fire season is here, so remember to maintain a 30-foot wide clearing in between any structure and vegetation. Recent rains may have caused overgrown vegetation in some breaks.

With Independence Day around the corner, consider leaving the fireworks to the professionals and enjoy one of the many fireworks displays around town. If you use fireworks, follow all warnings and instructions. Young children should never be given fireworks. Older children should only use fireworks under the direct supervision of an adult. Have a happy and safe Independence Day celebration.

There were no questions from the Board or guests. Capt. Nakanelua was thanked for attending the meeting.

HONOLULU POLICE DEPARTMENT – Lt. Chun, from District 6 – Waikiki, reported the following:

1. Illegal camping citations – 16 issued at the Waikiki Shell, none in the parking lot; 40 in Kapiolani Park, 2 in the parking lot of the Diamond Head Tennis Center, none at the Waikiki Bandstand.
2. Other citations issued included 18 liquor law violations, 17 warrant arrests, 6 drug arrests, and 3 for lewdness.

Questions, answers and comments followed:

1. No statistics were available on the number of homeless persons in Kapiolani Park, the only information available is from the number of citations. No increase was seen when the homeless were forced out of Ala Moana Park. The Waikiki Business Improvement District is working with Dr. Karl Kim, of the University Hawaii, who is doing a study on this matter.



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Lt. DeLima, from District 7-East Honolulu, reported the following:

1. A written report distributed earlier includes crime statistics by beats, and information on the new law relating to pedestrians' right of way in crosswalks.
2. The ATV unit that covers the area between the Diamond Head Lookout and Sandy Beach issued citations for 40 liquor law, 4 dogs in the park, 1 illegal camping, and 35 parking violations.
3. The Pan Pacific Matsuri in Hawaii Festival half marathon is June 11, starting at Ala Moana Park, 5:00 a.m.
4. Monitoring continues of a moped shop on Kapahulu Avenue where illegal parking of mopeds in a metered stall and trash problems have been occurring. Some of the parking problems are attributed to customers, bulky trash items are being stored properly for later pickup.

Questions, answers and comments followed:

1. Drivers coming down St. Louis Drive are illegally crossing solid lines on Waialae Avenue to reach 1st Avenue. Follow up will be done.
2. Graffiti tagging problems are occurring in the upper St. Louis Heights area. The number to call for removal on State property is 485-6200, 485-6201, or 485-6207. A list of numbers for potholes on State and City roads, and graffiti on City property was provided to interested persons by Dumas. Capt. Green encouraged anyone seeing graffiti tagging in progress to call police and provide as much information as possible. He noted 20 arrests were recently made.
3. Thanks were expressed for the Click It or Ticket seatbelt enforcement campaign.
4. Follow up will be done on an investigation into a case involving a confrontation between two persons in the upper St. Louis Heights area.
5. Capt. Green encouraged the reporting of suspicious activity to police.

All the police department representatives were thanked for attending the meeting.

BOARD OF WATER SUPPLY – No representative was present. Copies of a written report and booklet on water conservation tips were made available for interested persons to review. A letter in response to a request for an irrigation system for the triangle park area bordered by Poni Moi, Diamond Head Road, and Kalakaua Avenue was received explaining that a meter for the irrigation system would have to be requested by the Department of Parks and Recreation.

Questions were raised about the status of a project along Campbell Avenue and problems it is creating in blocking side streets.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING FOR MAY 11, 2006 – Miller moved and Gau seconded that the minutes be approved. The motion carried, 12-0-2. Matson and Wong abstained.

BOARD HOUSEKEEPING:

ELECTION OF OFFICERS – Election of officers for the 2006 – 2007 term was conducted at this time.

CHAIR – Berlin nominated Ah Mai. Wong nominated Narita. Narita declined the nomination. Matson nominated Chang. Chang declined the nomination. Wong nominated Persons. Persons declined the nomination. Berlin moved and Narita seconded that nominations be closed. The motion passed, 12-1-1. Wong opposed, Matson abstained. Ah Mai was elected by acclamation.

VICE CHAIR, SUBDISTRICT 1, ST. LOUIS HEIGHTS – Miller nominated Gau. Wong nominated Narita. Miller moved and Dumas seconded that the nominations be closed. The motion to close nominations carried unanimously. A vote was conducted with the following results: **for Gau:** Ah Mai, Gau, Dumas, Miller, Chang, Egged, Nahoopii, Otto, Waialeale, Berlin; **for Narita:** Persons, Matson, Wong; **Abstain:** Narita. **Gau was elected vice chair for subdistrict 1.**

VICE CHAIR, SUBDISTRICT 2, KAPAHULU – Chang nominated Nahoopii. Waialeale moved and Egged seconded that nominations be closed. The motion to close nominations carried unanimously. Nahoopii was elected by acclamation.

VICE CHAIR, SUBDISTRICT 3, DIAMOND HEAD – Matson nominated Wong. Gau nominated Berlin. Miller moved and Nahoopii seconded that the nominations be closed. The motion to close nominations carried unanimously. A vote was conducted with the following results: **for Wong:** Wong, Matson; **for Berlin:** Ah Mai, Gau, Dumas, Miller, Narita, Chang, Egged, Nahoopii, Otto, Waialeale, Berlin, Persons. **Berlin was elected vice chair for subdistrict 3.**

SECRETARY – Gau nominated Miller. Waialeale moved and Nahoopii seconded that the nominations be closed. The motion to close nominations carried, 12-0-2. Matson and Wong abstained. **Miller was elected by acclamation.**

TREASURER – Egged nominated Narita. Gau moved and Dumas seconded that the nominations be closed. The motion to close nominations carried unanimously. Narita was elected by acclamation.

STANDING RULES: Chair Ah Mai reviewed the Board's standing rules: be recognized before speaking, turns are limited to two minutes unless otherwise noted, no one shall speak again until all others have been accommodated, and no food or drink on the hardwood dance floor.

Discussion followed on whether or not to continue with other standing rules that require a majority vote of the Board to extend the meeting past 9:00 p.m. **Dumas moved and Persons seconded that the stipulation to extend the meeting be removed and extension of the meeting be left to the discretion of the chair.** Discussion, pro and con, followed where Chair Ah Mai relinquished the chair to provide comments. **The motion carried, 10-0-4.** Miller, Gau, Ah Mai, and Chang abstained. Berlin returned the chair to Ah Mai.

Discussion followed on the lack of committees established for this Board and that committees are necessary to do certain follow up work. Chair Ah Mai reported that committees were eliminated when she became chair as committee meetings were not productive due to lack of order and decorum, and generation of formal complaints by members against other members. In the place of committees, matters needing follow up were referred to the subdistrict vice chairs. Additional discussion followed. By consensus discussion was ended and this matter deferred to the next meeting.

SUBDISTRICT REPORTS:

SUBDISTRICT 1 – ST LOUIS HEIGHTS – Gau reported the next St. Louis Community Association meeting is scheduled for July 10.

SUBDISTRICT 2 – KAPAHULU – Nahoopii reported problems with a moped shop on Kapahulu Avenue relating to its parking of mopeds in a metered parking space and trash, have been referred to the police department, which has followed up and will continue to monitor the shop.

SUBDISTRICT 3 – DIAMOND HEAD – Wong reported the following: a) the water runoff problem from Noela Drive to Pualei Circle is due to a problem with a culvert that is on private property and is not maintained by the City, b) construction of sidewalk bulbouts on Kapahulu Avenue is progressing with landscaping being installed, c) the next Waikiki Residents Association meeting is June 20, Waikiki Community Center, 7:00 p.m.

ELECTED OFFICIALS:

SENATOR LES IHARA – Senator Ihara reported the Governor has to give notice about bills she plans to veto to the Legislature by June 26. The Legislature could hold a special session to override vetoes.

Questions, answers and comments followed:

1. The Governor can line item veto budget items.
2. Ethics Commission investigations of legislators may continue even if they decide not to run for reelection.
3. There is a dispute between the Governor and Mayor Hannemann about whether the State or the City should collect the increase in the general excise tax to fund the mass transit system. It is unknown exactly what the cost of collecting the tax would be, but this tax is collected only for the City and County of Honolulu.

Senator Ihara was thanked for attending the meeting.

REPRESENTATIVE CALVIN SAY – Representative Say reported the following:

1. He is working with the State Department of Land and Natural Resources on problems with homeless in Waahila Park.
2. The Governor has released \$400,000 for the Ala Wai Watershed project.
3. Persons interested in Senate Bill 255, relating to Kakaako, should contact the Governor with their suggestions on vetoing or signing the bill.
4. He believes the State can handle the collection of the general excise tax for the City and County of Honolulu, if it chooses to do so.
5. He does not favor the holding of a special session of the Legislature to override the Governor's veto of bills unless the Legislature has a plan on what it wants to do before a special session is held.

Questions, answers and comments followed:

1. It was suggested there be an investigation into oil companies' pricing of diesel fuel as it seems like there is price gouging occurring.
2. Local oil refineries are allowed to export refined products out of state.
3. Representative Say had no specific information on the changing of educational standards to teachers to address the shortage of teachers.
4. It was suggested that the University of Hawaii improve its efforts identify theft protection as it sends out some documents with social security numbers.
5. Non-profit agencies are applying to be able to redeem bottle bill deposits. There is no mandate on retailers to redeem the deposits.

Representative Say was thanked for attending the meeting.

REPRESENTATIVE SCOTT NISHIMOTO – Eric La’a, from Representative Nishimoto’s Office, distributed a written report and highlighted the following:

1. Representative Nishimoto continues to sponsor a grant program and other awards, including the Outstanding Teacher, Outstanding Student, Physical Fitness, and Mindful Student of Year awards.
2. Kapahulu Senior Center Annual Huli Huli Chicken Sale, June 17, 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

There were no questions from the Board or guests. La’a was thanked for attending the meeting.

MAYOR’S OFFICE – Constantinau from the Mayor’s Office, reported the following:

1. Regarding a question from last month’s meeting relating to traffic back ups created by the new traffic signal light at Date Street, Kapahulu Avenue, and Mooheau Street; a monitoring period is part of the project.
2. Regarding a question from last month’s meeting regarding implementing “no parking” restrictions on Monsaratt Avenue last month, the restrictions were needed to accommodate the large number of people needed for the USO Salute to Our Troops activities.
3. Regarding a question about well drilling activity seen on St. Louis Drive and Kapiolani Boulevard, the Department of Planning and Permitting found no activity on its check of the areas.
4. Regarding a question from last month’s meeting about missing street name signs at 12th and Alohea avenues, the Department of Transportation Services will have the signs replaced.
5. Regarding a question about the status of the Board of Water Supply water main project on Campbell Avenue, BWS reports the project is 50 percent complete with completion scheduled by the end of this September.
6. Regarding problems with a newly installed crosswalk on Leahi Street preventing deliveries to the community gardens, this has been resolved.
7. Regarding problems with resetting of manhole covers on St. Louis Drive, the Department of Design and Construction has jurisdiction, and resetting is pending design work to reconstruct the sewer manholes and reset the covers.

Questions, answers and comments followed:

1. Thanks were expressed for work done at Crane Park to deal with problems in the restrooms.
2. Regarding questions about testing of beach sand due to concerns about contamination from the sewer spill into the Ala Wai Canal, the State Department of Health has jurisdiction, but there are no national standards to compare test results to, but it was noted that other states have set their own standards which should be considered for use in Hawaii.
3. Follow up will be done about a request for a left-turn light from Mooheau Avenue to Kapahulu Avenue in the makai bound direction.
4. Follow up will be done on the legality of the use of metered parking stalls near Kapiolani Park for non park related events, such as Sunset on the Beach.

Constantinau was thanked for attending the meeting.

COUNCILMEMBER CHARLES DJOU – Lori Wingard, from Councilmember Djou’s Office, reported the following:

1. The City Council passed the \$2.2 billion City budget, which was less than the Administration's version. The budget includes an increase in the Zoo entrance fee, reductions in homeowner's property tax rates, and an increase in commercial property tax rates.
2. The bill to limit the number of annual parades in Waikiki passed second reading.
3. Councilmember Djou now chairs the Committee on Zoning.

COUNCILMEMBER ANN KOBAYASHI – A written report was received from Councilmember Kobayashi and made available for interested persons to review.

COMMUNITY CONCERNS:

POTHOLE – A pothole was reported on Kapiolani Boulevard, between Market City and the self storage facility, Koko Head bound direction. Constantinau will follow up.

DAMAGED SIDEWALK – Tree roots are damaging the sidewalk at 3036 Kaunaoa Street. Constantinau will follow up.

FIRE HYDRANT INSTALLATION CLEAN-UP – Clean up following installation of fire hydrants on Kaunaoa Street was requested. Constantinau will follow up.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

FREAR HALL MODIFICATIONS – Jan Yokota, from the University of Hawaii, reported the Environmental Assessment for the new residence hall has been completed and submitted to the City Department of Planning and Permitting along with the Plan Review Use (PRU) application. The City Council must approve the PRU. Demolition is scheduled to begin on June 26, presently removal of lead paint and other materials is in progress.

Glen Miura, consultant for the project, reported plans have been revised to remove the basketball court and replace it with storage space for bicycles, mopeds, and surfboards. The building will be air conditioned with natural ventilation for common areas. Major trees will be saved, but some will be removed for the project.

Questions, answers and comments followed:

1. The building will use heat recovered from the air conditioning system to provide hot water.
2. Concern was expressed about no parking being provided for this project which will exacerbate area parking problems. There are plans to allow students to park overnight and weekends on campus, with a requirement to move the cars in the morning. Students are discouraged from having cars on campus, use of a bus pass program is encouraged. Making more bus service available was suggested. Development of additional parking is in the master plan. Student parking in privately-owned lots is available, including at the Japanese Cultural Center.

Yakota, Miura, Manke, and Iwaoka were thanked for attending the meeting.

DIAMOND HEAD COMMUNITY GARDENS UPDATE – Hatch reported problems with the new crosswalk blocking deliveries to the gardens has been resolved.

NEW BUSINESS:

BEACHWALK WASTEWATER PUMP STATION AND FORCE MAIN AND ALA WAI TRUNK SEWER REPLACEMENT – Chester Koga, from R. M. Towill, a consultant on this project, reported the replacement sewer line has been in the works for several years. The project will replace the existing pump station on an adjacent site, though alternate sites were considered.

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The new line will run underground along the mauka side of the Ala Wai Canal to a pump station in Ala Moana Park which connects to the Sand Island Sewage Treatment Plant. Cost of the project is \$57.4 million, the Environmental Impact Statement has been prepared and submitted to the State Office of Environmental Quality Control, and additional permits are being processed. The project is still in the design phase, construction is expected to begin this fall or next spring. Microtunneling will be used instead of trenching, but will require some access points.

Questions, answers and comments followed:

1. The line will be installed under the Ala Wai Canal, allowances are being made to accommodate future dredging of the canal.
2. Drilling work seen in the area may have been for soil testing for this project.
3. The existing sewer line will remain in operation while the new line is being built. The existing line will be abandoned when the new line is completed.
4. This line will connect to a pump station in Ala Moana Park, from there sewage goes to the Sand Island Sewage Treatment Plant and eventually dumped several miles off shore.
5. A temporary bypass line will be built in case the existing line fails.

KAPAHULU MEDICAL BUILDING – PREVIEW – Deferred.

KAPIOLANI PARK/WAIKIKI SHELL COMMERCIALISM – Deferred.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 9:22 p.m.

Submitted by,

Dean Chu
Neighborhood Assistant